

# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 13 November 2007



- The *Associated Press* reports that the Department of Energy Secretary on Thursday defended plans to divert oil into the federal emergency reserve while still acknowledging that tight supplies likely are one reason for surging crude oil prices. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve, a system of salt caverns along the Louisiana and Texas coast, contains 694 million barrels of oil to be used in a supply emergency. The government is working to fill it to its 727 million barrel capacity. (See items 2)
- *CBS News* reports that the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said at a November 8 meeting in Washington that runway incursions are the greatest threat to aviation safety today. They warned that conditions are ripe for a runway accident and that the Federal Aviation Administration is not moving fast enough to establish a system that would automatically alert pilots when a collision is imminent. (See item <u>15</u>)

#### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

Production Industries: Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste;

**Defense Industrial Base; Dams** 

Service Industries: Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping;

Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities

Sustenance and Health: Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare

Federal and State: Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and

**Icons** 

#### **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <a href="Physical: ELEVATED">Physical: ELEVATED</a>, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – [http://www.esisac.com]

1. *November 9, Florida Today* – (Florida) **FPL looks at greener energy.** Five months after state regulators quashed efforts by Florida Power & Light (FPL) Co. to build a state-of-the-art coal-fired plant in Glades County, the utility probably won't make

another attempt with coal. "I don't necessarily think we're headed in that direction anymore," a senior media relations specialist at FPL, said Thursday. "I really think we're focusing on different kinds of energy," the media relations specialist said. That includes researching solar and wind technologies to fuel its generators, but also expanding its nuclear facilities. Nuclear power, which is already an important part of FPL's fuel mix and is opposed by some groups, will continue to be key a component of the company's energy output. The utility is seeking approval to add two reactors to its nuclear plant outside Miami and possibly seek to add two more to its facility in Port St. Lucie. FPL, like many large companies, is promoting so-called "green" initiatives by pushing energy efficiency and studying ways to wean itself off fossil fuels, such as coal, natural gas and oil.

Source:

http://www.floridatoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071109/BUSINESS/711090330

- 2. November 8, The Associated Press (National) Government plans to divert oil into reserve. The Department of Energy (DOE) secretary on Thursday defended plans to divert oil into the federal emergency reserve, although he acknowledged that tight supplies likely are one reason for surging crude oil prices. The DOE announced it has awarded contracts to three companies—Shell Trading Co., Sunoco Logistics and BP North America—for 12.3 million barrels of oil to go into the government's Strategic Petroleum Reserve, beginning in January. Deliveries are scheduled at a rate of 70,000 barrels a day for six months. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve, a system of salt caverns along the Louisiana and Texas coast, contains 694 million barrels of oil to be used in a supply emergency. The government is working to fill it to its 727 million barrel capacity. The companies are providing the oil in lieu of royalty payments. Source<a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/11/08/AR2007110801687.html">http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/11/08/AR2007110801687.html</a>
- 3. November 8, Platts (National) U.S. agencies propose corridors for energy lines on Western lands. Five US agencies on Thursday released a draft environmental impact statement laying out energy corridors on federal lands in 11 Western states. The statement designates corridors for oil, natural gas and hydrogen pipelines, as well as electricity lines, in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The departments of Energy, Agriculture, Commerce, Defense and Interior contributed to the report. The areas covered are largely on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service land, as well as on land managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service and the Department of Defense. Source:

 $\underline{http://www.platts.com/Natural\%20Gas/News/6577992.xml?sub=Natural\%20Gas\&p=Natural\%20Gas/News\&?undefined\&undefined$ 

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# **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. November 9, Visalia Times-Delta – (California) Fourteen treated after chemical spill. Fumes from a chemical spill next door sent 14 employees of a Tulare, California recycling firm to the hospital Thursday morning. All complained of minor respiratory problems and were treated at Tulare District Hospital and released. Acid spilled from a container, mixed with water and vaporized, witnesses and firefighters reported. Tulare City Fire Department officials said three people were taken by ambulance from their work to a local hospital. The rest were walk-ins at the hospital. Tulare County Environmental Health and the Visalia Fire Department Hazardous Material Response team also responded. After putting on neon green, chemical-repelling suits, members of the hazardous response team went into the GB&S Marketing warehouse and yard to check on the leak and take samples. Because the leak stopped after firefighters responded, no major evacuations were needed.

Source:

http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071109/NEWS/711090337

5. November 9, The Sun News – (South Carolina) Explosion, fire at chemical plant investigated. A fire that erupted at the 3V Chemical Co. plant in Georgetown, South Carolina, remains under investigation, while at least one section of the building remains closed. The blaze broke out at around midnight Wednesday, said the director of Georgetown County Emergency Services. No one was injured and no evacuations were ordered near the plant. Firefighters and emergency workers from the Georgetown County Fire Department, Georgetown City Fire Department, and Midway Fire Rescue, responded. The chemicals involved in the incident were xylene and acetone. Source: <a href="http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/story/244569.html">http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/story/244569.html</a>

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#### Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. November 9, Tri-City Herald – (Washington) Radioactive waste treatment plan goes back to drawing board. The Department of Energy (DOE) is rethinking its plan for treating radioactive sludge now held in the K West Basin after reviews by independent experts raised issues. The design of the treatment system had been considered complete, but now DOE is returning to the conceptual phase of the design. Until DOE is confident of the technology to be used for sludge treatment, it is not estimating when treatment of the sludge will start. Irradiated fuel for Hanford's plutonium production program was left stranded in the two K Basins when processing stopped at the end of the Cold War. The fuel corroded and mixed with sand and bits of concrete in the basin to form a radioactive sludge. DOE has completed the difficult task of getting the bulk of the sludge into underwater containers and has transferred the K East sludge to K West, where all of it is being held until it is treated. The water is needed to shield workers from radiation in the sludge. DOE continues to plan to use grouting as the basic treatment method to prepare the radioactive sludge for disposal, said the DOE assistant manager for central Hanford cleanup. But DOE is investigating simplifying the treatment process by not heating the waste, which would speed oxidation of metals. Source: http://www.tri-cityherald.com/tch/local/v-rss/story/9441154p-9352699c.html

- 7. November 8, The Olympian (Washington) Energy Department hires new manager of Hanford cleanup. The U.S. Department of Energy named a longtime federal employee Thursday to oversee certain key aspects of cleaning up the Hanford nuclear reservation in Washington, the nation's most contaminated nuclear site. The new manager will be responsible for oversight of efforts to rid 177 underground tanks of radioactive and hazardous waste and construction of a massive \$12.2 billion plant to convert the waste to glass logs for permanent disposal.
  - Source: <a href="http://www.theolympian.com/northwest/story/266249.html">http://www.theolympian.com/northwest/story/266249.html</a>
- 8. November 8, The News Tribune (Washington) Uranium might go through port. A potential customer for a Port of Tacoma terminal operator could bring a new cargo that the port does not want. Washington United Terminals, the Tacoma Fire Department said, is pursuing a shipping line whose cargo mix includes uranium hexafluoride. The compound is a form of uranium used to produce fuel for nuclear reactors. The department's deputy chief of fire prevention, said recently that it issued a conditional permit to Washington United Terminals that would allow the company to handle the cargo as long as it develops sufficient site safety and transportation plans. Washington United Terminals and the shipping line are still negotiating a deal, and nothing has been finalized, according to the deputy chief of fire prevention.

Source: http://www.thenewstribune.com/business/story/198542.html

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### **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

- 9. November 9, Honolulu Advertiser (Hawaii) **Defense bill funds Hawaii ocean search for old munitions.** Manned and unmanned submersibles would survey the ocean floor thousands of feet deep off south O'ahu for chemical weapons dumped at the end of World War II, under a \$459.6 billion defense appropriations bill approved yesterday by the U.S. House of Representatives. Hawaii lawmakers inserted about \$218 million for special projects in the defense spending bill, approved 400-15 by the House. Source: <a href="http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2007/Nov/09/ln/hawaii711090348.html">http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2007/Nov/09/ln/hawaii711090348.html</a>
- 10. November 8, Prime Newswire (National) Kratos Defense & Security Solutions awarded two physical security and surveillance contracts. Kratos Defense and Security Solutions, Inc. announced that it has been awarded contracts from two leading national digital infrastructure companies to provide a range of physical security and surveillance services. The combined value of the two contracts is approximately \$5 million. Included in the contracts announced today, Kratos will provide a variety of security and surveillance services including access control with biometrics, smart cards, extensive interior and exterior CCTV, perimeter fence protection, alarm monitoring, photo ID and biometric enrollment, a fiber optic system, and vehicle control. Source: http://money.cnn.com/news/news/newsfeeds/articles/primenewswire/130896.htm

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### **Banking and Finance Sector**

11. November 9, The Herald News – (Illinois) New phone scam victimizes locals. Grundy County sheriff's office in Illinois has received a number of reports from local residents who have been victims of an "inmate (prison) phone scam." A resident receives a call (usually a collect call, although not always) from someone who claims to be in jail in need of bond money, or acting as a spokesman for a law enforcement agency reporting that a relative has been involved in a terrible car crash. The unsuspecting resident responds by accepting the collect call. The violator then provides a phone number for the victim to call, but the telephone number begins with \*(star) 72. The star 72 command activates the call-forwarding feature that many individuals have on their home telephones. Other series of numbers have been used in the past to achieve the same or substantially similar results. Doing this gives immediate access of your phone line to the violator, and as a result telephone calls can be made by the violator from your home telephone line. Collect and long-distance calls are usually made on the line, and may not be discovered until the next phone bill arrives. Children or elderly residents may be especially vulnerable to this type of fraud. Source:

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/heraldnews/news/642660,4\_1\_JO09\_SCAM\_S1. article

- 12. November 9, KTVZ, Central Oregon (Oregon) Wave of phone-scam calls target banks, customers. Hundreds if not thousands of Central Oregonians have been targeted by telephone scam artists falsely claiming to represent two banks and claiming their debit or credit cards were deactivated and that they needed to call a number and provide personal information. Bank of the Cascades customers were hit the hardest by Wednesday night's wave of calls, but U.S. Bank was also hit by the scammers, apparently operating out of Iowa, whose 888 callback number has now been disabled by authorities. The automated message, most received between 8 and 10 p.m. Wednesday, told the people on the other end of the line to call another number and provide their card information, but most did not fall for it.
- 13. *November 8*, *USA Today* (District of Columbia) **F.B.I. arrests 5 in \$20M D.C. tax scam.** Federal prosecutors say a manager and a tax specialist used friends and relatives to defraud the District of Columbia of \$20 million that they used to buy homes, luxury cars, fur coats, jewelry and designer purses and shoes. The two and other city employees created or approved phony property tax refund requests that they used to issue more than 40 refund checks, each averaging \$388,000. F.B.I. agents arrested the pair Wednesday, along with three others. All were charged with mail fraud, bank fraud, money laundering and conspiracy.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-11-08-dcscam N.htm

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#### **Transportation Sector**

14. November 9, The Associated Press; WKRG News Channel 5, Pensacola, Florida –

(Georgia) **Power restored at Atlanta airport.** A concourse at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport has reopened after a small fire caused delays and cancellation of flights early Friday morning. No injuries were reported. A spokesman said no Atlanta flights out of Mobile Regional were affected. Pensacola Regional said that two AirTran flights were cancelled.

Source:

http://wkrg.com/news/article/atlanta\_airport\_fire\_causing\_delays\_and\_cancellations/675\_5/

15. November 8, CBS News – (National) Runway close calls no. 1 air travel threat. At a meeting in Washington on November 8, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said runway incursions are the greatest threat to aviation safety today. With busy controllers trying to keep track of more planes than ever before, the NTSB warned today that conditions are ripe for a runway accident. It said the Federal Aviation Administration is not moving fast enough to put a system in place that would automatically alert pilots when they are on a collision course. Source:

http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/11/08/eveningnews/printable3475500.shtml

16. November 8, Yuma Sun – (National) Bomb scare leads to closure of Interstate 8. Interstate 8 between Roll and Tacna, Arizona, was closed for more than two hours Wednesday night after Border Patrol agents found what they though were homemade bombs in a car that had previously led them on a chase, according to the Arizona Department of Public Safety. A bomb squad later determined there were no explosive devices in the car. An official said the motorist appeared to have some "mental issues" that led him to create "things to look like bombs, but they weren't." Source:

http://www.yumasun.com/articles/car 37698 article news.html/border patrol.html

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# **Postal and Shipping Sector**

17. November 8, The Associated Press – (Florida) Congressman's Florida office evacuated. A suspicious envelope sent to a U.S. Representative's Florida office on November 8 forced a brief evacuation of the building, but nothing harmful was found and no injuries were reported, police said. The letter that arrived at the Fort Lauderdale office had a "glittery substance" inside, said a city spokeswoman, and was opened by a staff member. The representative was not in the office at the time. An investigation is under way, and the envelope and substance were turned over to the F.B.I. Source: <a href="http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5is-iSN8zjY31rOhcbjXZPAa-1PKQD8SPOJMG0">http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5is-iSN8zjY31rOhcbjXZPAa-1PKQD8SPOJMG0</a>

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### **Agriculture and Food Sector**

18. November 9, Meatingplace Magazine — (California) California firm recalls frozen beef tamales for metal pieces. Circle Foods, LLC of Chula Vista, California is voluntarily recalling approximately 3,750 pounds of frozen beef tamales that may contain pieces of metal, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced. Cartons of 10 individually wrapped 5-ounce tamales "Tortilla land BEEF TAMALES, Traditional Corn Husk Wrap, All Natural" were recalled. Each carton also bears the establishment number "EST. 17417" inside the USDA mark of inspection as well as a "use by" date of "110308." The products were produced on November. 3, and were distributed to Costco stores in the Los Angeles, California area. No injuries have been reported.

Source: <a href="http://www.cattlenetwork.com/content.asp?contentid=174956">http://www.cattlenetwork.com/content.asp?contentid=174956</a>

19. November 8, Korea Times – (International) U.S. urges resumption of full beef imports. Livestock industry officials from the U.S. visited the South Korean Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Friday, to ask for the country's full resumption of beef imports. The seven-member group, which includes leaders of unions and committees representing 70 percent of the U.S. livestock industry, met with ministry officials in charge of livestock farming. Talks have been under way on new guidelines for the import of U.S. beef in recent months after the two countries signed a free trade agreement. South Korean negotiators proposed that the country allow the import of ribs but maintain the ban on other specified risk materials, such as brains, eyes, tonsils and spinal cords. U.S. officials, however, called for the resumption of full-scale beef imports, reminding Seoul of the fact that the country had received the "controlled risk" status in terms of mad cow disease from the World Organization of Animal Health last May. South Korea had imposed a total ban on U.S. beef after confirmation of a mad cow disease case in December 2003. Before that, South Korea was a lucrative market for U.S. beef exporters. Some 10,113 tons were imported in 2003. Korean officials delivered the country's basic position that the problem would be solved through ongoing talks between government officials and experts from both countries. Source: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2007/11/123 13440.html

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#### **Water Sector**

20. November 9, Gloucester Daily Times – (Massachusetts) Cause of sewage discharge into Annisquam remains a mystery. Five days after a malfunction at the sewage treatment plant knocked out pumps and forced the diversion of about 180,000 gallons of sewage into the Annisquam River in Massachusetts, the cause of the trouble remains unknown. No serious mechanical problems that could explain the failure were discovered, and the rainfall was not unusual, amounting to less than an inch from the remnant of Hurricane Noel. The city's environmental engineer theorizes that the storm surge - about a foot on top of a 9.5-foot high tide - put unusual back pressure on the outfall pipe, placing extra strain on the pumps that were working to push out the effluent

against the force of a rising tide.

Source: http://www.gloucestertimes.com/punews/local story 313093926

21. November 8, The New York Times — (National) In first Bush veto override, Senate enacts Water Bill. The Senate voted overwhelmingly today for a popular \$23 billion water projects measure affecting locales across the country. Enactment of the water projects measure had been widely expected, despite a veto by President Bush, given the importance of the bill to individual districts and the lawmakers that represent them. The measure embraces huge endeavors like the restoration of the Florida Everglades and relief to hurricane-stricken communities along the Gulf Coast and smaller ones like sewage-treatment plants, dams and beach protection that are important to smaller constituencies. The bill authorizes the projects but does not appropriate the money for them. Appropriation of funds will have to be taken care of in subsequent legislation. The bill was the first water-projects measure in several years, so there was plenty of pent-up demand for money in locales from coast to coast.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/08/washington/08cnd-spend.html?ref=us

22. November 7, WSOC Charlotte, North Carolina – (North Carolina) Black Water in Gaston County community being tested. Black particles have been showing up in a North Carolina neighborhood's well water. Aqua North Carolina, the company that operates the wells, says the particles are manganese, an iron that can settle in well piping. They say it resulted from when they tried to flush their water lines in an effort to improve the water supply. The Department of Health and Natural Resources said there are no known health effects from manganese. In an interview, an Aqua North Carolina representative said they are adding twice as many valves to flush the lines. Both Aqua North Carolina and state specialists are taking samples to test the water.

Source: http://www.wsoctv.com/news/14535812/detail.html

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#### **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

23. November 8, VOA News – (National) U.S. health officials say drug-resistant infections are growing problem. In testimony before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Wednesday the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that the spread of antibiotic-resistant staph infections, commonly known as MRSA, in community settings is a growing problem in the U.S. and around the world, but simple steps can infection. She advised not sharing personal items, diligent hand washing, and careful covering of infected areas. Medical researchers say MRSA killed more than 18,000 people in the United States in 2005, more people than the AIDS virus. Most MRSA infections are contracted in hospitals, but doctors are now seeing a growing number of people infected by the drug resistant disease in community settings where people are in close contact, such as schools. MRSA, which can enter the body through cuts or wounds, is blamed for the deaths of at least two students in the past month.

Source: http://www.voanews.com/english/2007-11-08-voa81.cfm

24. November 8, Golden Gate Express Online – (California) Troubled medical center could flatline. With the fate of St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco's Mission District uncertain and the impending closure of its inpatient emergency services, San Francisco State's nursing program risks losing an important satellite campus. At a committee hearing before the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on October 25, California Pacific Medical Center, the non-profit medical group that owns St. Luke's, outlined their plan for transferring acute care services to a proposed \$1.7 billion dollar hospital in the more affluent Cathedral Hill neighborhood. The move would leave San Francisco General Hospital as the only hospital with long-term inpatient care in the south-east side of the city. The director of the San Francisco State school of nursing said this is part of a nationwide trend where hospitals in underinsured communities in low income neighborhoods are forced to cut services because of the lack of adequate compensation. This creates additional problems for nursing schools. As they try to ramp up enrollees to keep up with the nursing shortage, they are confronted with a lack of local hospital space for those students to fulfill the clinical requirements of their programs. "It makes it very difficult to expand [the nursing program] at all because we have nowhere to take them," the school's director said.

Source: http://xpress.sfsu.edu/archives/news/009575.html

#### **Government Facilities Sector**

25. November 9, Green Bay Press-Gazette – (Wisconsin) Bottle bombs cause scare at UWGB. Campus police are investigating two small homemade chemical bottle bombs that exploded November 7 in the residential complex at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. The bombs were created by filling plastic soda bottles with a toilet bowl cleaner and covering them with aluminum foil. No one was injured and no property was damaged when they exploded. They may have been created as a prank, but police said they could have harmed someone.

Source:

 $\frac{http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071109/GPG0101/711090595/1207/GPGnews$ 

26. November 9, Lemont Reporter – (Illinois) Police advise Dist. 113A to lock down schools. In Illinois, Lemont-Bromberek Combined School District 113A officials complied with directives from the Lemont Police Department to lock down all four schools twice on November 6, according to school officials. The police informed district officials that there was a individual who, in their opinion, may have been a threat to District 113A students. The police had received a 911 call informing them of a young person wearing camouflage clothing carrying what looked like a gun case. Police were unable to find the person initially, but they informed the schools to lock down. A second 911 call came in later from another person reported seeing a young person matching the description given by the first caller. Police searched the area and found a teenage boy carrying a "soft air rifle" in a carrying case.

Source: http://www.chicagosuburbannews.com/lemont/homepage/x1086972138

### **Emergency Services Sector**

- 27. November 9, KTTC TV, Rochester (Minnesota) No phone service, no 911. On Thursday morning Qwest had a problem with a piece of equipment that ended up affecting several Minnesota counties and their 911 dispatch. The Emergency Operations Center issued a warning across Southeast Minnesota Thursday morning saying 13 counties did not have reliable phone services, including 911 dispatches. Fire personnel and a deputy were stationed in area fire halls just in case an emergency arose. Nothing major happened during the five hours it took Qwest to fix the problem, which turned out to be a software connectivity issue to the fiber optic network, not the network itself. A Qwest official said the company is investigating what exactly lead to the disruption. Source: http://www.kttc.com/News/index.php?ID=19910
- 28. November 8, Wired News (National) Disaster gets its own phone number ... some places. In many areas in the U.S., 2-1-1 operators normally provide non-emergency advice, guiding people to community resources ranging from help with an aging parent to finding safe preschool care to learning English or applying for the earned-income tax credit. But as the San Diego fires forced the evacuation of half a million people and destroyed 1,200 homes, 2-1-1 received more than 110,000 calls -- a year's worth -- in five days. Now national social-services groups, including the United Way, are turning the heat up on a national campaign to make the service universal throughout the United States. They are supporting legislation before Congress that would create a single federal-funding source and uniform requirements for service, bringing an end to the current patchwork approach. The Director of the United Way estimates that while 65 percent of the country has some form of 2-1-1 -- usually in larger urban areas, it has not come to cell phone or VOIP users yet. And pay phones, often privately owned, do not have any obligation to provide 2-1-1 services.

Source: <a href="http://www.wired.com/politics/security/news/2007/11/two\_one\_one">http://www.wired.com/politics/security/news/2007/11/two\_one\_one</a>

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# **Information Technology**

29. *November 11, Fox News* – (National) **MySpace invaded by phishing virus promising free gift card.** An identity-stealing computer virus that masks itself as an offer for a free Macy's gift card has invaded the social networking site MySpace. The "phishing" scam reportedly is targeting the site's younger users, appearing as an email from a friend and prompting them to click on a link to retreive a \$500 Macy's gift certificate. After clicking on the link, users are bumped to a fake MySpace log-in page and asked to reenter their username and password. There, the information is being stolen by the third-party "phisher."

Source: <a href="http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,310462,00.html">http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,310462,00.html</a>

30. *November 9, Newsfactor.com* – (National) **Malware planted on MySpace once again.** Exploit Prevention Labs has discovered that attackers are using R&B recording artist

Alicia Keys' page to spread their malware over the Web. Other artists were also targets of the Web-based attack. In March, McAfee reported that MySpace is increasingly becoming a breeding ground for the "scum of the Internet," who try to capture personal information from members. In this case, website visitors are hit by an exploit, which installs malware in the background if they are not fully patched against the latest security vulnerabilities, and next they are presented with a fake codec, which tells them they need to install a codec to view the video. Specifically, visitors to these MySpace pages are directed to co8vd.cn/s. This appears to be a Chinese malware site. If the visitors accept the code installation, the site installs malicious software. You can view a video demonstration of the attack on YouTube. The hack has some interesting characteristics, the Chief Technology Officer at Exploit Prevention Labs explained. "Perhaps most interesting, the bad guys are using a creative hack we haven't seen before: The HTML in the page contains some sort of image map, which basically makes it so you can click on anything over a wide area on the page and your click is directed to the malicious hyperlink," he said. "We tested it and even the ads were affected." Source: http://www.newsfactor.com/story.xhtml?story\_id=021000Q2F7E6

31. November 8, CNet News – (National) Multiplying Mac trojan not epidemic yet.

Security firm F-Secure has discovered 32 variants of the Trojan that targets Mac operating systems, but claims about its powers have been wildly overstated, according to experts. A chief research officer at F-Secure said the Trojan was not an isolated incident, and those behind it seem "serious about targeting Mac users as well as Windows users. And they keep putting out slightly modified versions of the Trojan for the Mac too." The Trojan is being disguised as a codec, a device used to decode digital streams. If it is downloaded, it alters a computer's domain name system server, redirecting the machine to sites of the malware distributor's choice. The prime purpose appears to be to make money when people click on ads served on the sites. Another F-Secure official said that while this shows that Macs are "starting to get interesting for the bad guys," the Trojan does not mean Mac platforms are facing a malware epidemic.

Source: http://www.news.com/Multiplying-Mac-Trojan-not-epidemic-yet/2100-7349\_3-6217540.html?tag=cd.lede

#### **Internet Alert Dashboard**

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at <a href="mailto:soc@us-cert.gov">soc@us-cert.gov</a> or visit their Website: <a href="www.us-cert.gov">www.us-cert.gov</a>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <a href="https://www.it~isac.org/">https://www.it~isac.org/</a>.

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### **Communications Sector**

32. November 8, PR Newswire – (Maine) Verizon Wireless expands wireless broadband network across Maine. On Thursday, Verizon Wireless announced in a press release that it is expanding its wireless high-speed broadband network in Cumberland, Lincoln,

Sagadahock, and York Counties in Maine through a recent enhancement to 49 existing cell sites.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/NYTH01108112007-1.htm

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#### **Commercial Facilities Sector**

33. November 9, The Salt Lake Tribune – (Utah) Gas leak a disaster for Gunnison.

Several businesses in Gunnison, Utah are now are closed due to contamination caused by an underground gas tank leak at a local gas station. A cleanup contractor has dug out downtown sidewalks on both sides of the street to get at the leak and to vent the fumes. A local homeowner was evacuated Wednesday, when tests showed the fumes had seeped even farther into a residential area. The gas, which contains cancer-causing chemicals, apparently hit a hard, heavily compacted layer of soil about 10 feet down, headed south down Main Street half a block, then crossed the street through an ancient, buried streambed and moved south to the dress shop and beyond. The state Division of Environmental Response and Remediation's underground petroleum tank office has been overseeing the work since the first calls came in August 10. The office oversees a kind of insurance fund that covers \$990,000 of cleanup costs when an underground tank leaks, after participating companies pay a \$10,000 deductible. Cleanup costs may top \$1M.

Source: <a href="http://www.sltrib.com/News/ci\_7413507">http://www.sltrib.com/News/ci\_7413507</a>

34. *November 9, Newsday* – (Connecticut) **Employee charged with fake bomb threats to company.** Watertown police have arrested a man who allegedly calling in fake bomb threats three times in 17 days to get those days off from work. Police say after each threat, the company's 110 employees were evacuated while state police dog units searched the building. No explosives were found and employees were sent home for the day after each threat.

Source: <a href="http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct--bombthreats-arres1109nov09,0,6660656.story">http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct--bombthreats-arres1109nov09,0,6660656.story</a>

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#### National Monuments & Icons Sector

35. November 9, Journal and Courier – (Indiana) Vandals leave long message at battlefield. On the 196th anniversary of the Battle of Tippecanoe, November 7, vandals spray-painted slogans on the Tippecanoe Battlefield monument in Indiana that was erected as a memorial to the historic event. Messages spray-painted on the monument said, "America repent," "Justice will be served," "Coward," "Give us back our spiritual capital" and "Tecumseh's not dead." The top of a cast aluminum historical marker near the monument also was snapped off by the vandals. The battlefield park manager contacted the Battle Ground Police Department when the vandalism was discovered.

Source:

 $\frac{http://www.jconline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071109/NEWS/711090338/1152/NEWS$ 

36. November 9, The Los Angeles Times – (California) Angeles National Forest pot farms raided. Authorities have arrested 19 people and destroyed 300,000 marijuana plants in an operation that targeted marijuana cultivation in California's Angeles National Forest, a Los Angeles County sheriff's spokesman said today. Those arrested have been booked on suspicion of marijuana cultivation and weapons violations. Authorities seized nine weapons, three homes and \$500,000 in cash in connection with the investigation. The seizures by the sheriff's Marijuana Enforcement Team in concert with federal and state law enforcement officials, were more than triple the previous record of 83,000 plants seized in that area. It also marked a trend toward more organized criminal enterprises in outdoor pot-farming operations.

 $Source: \underline{http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-pot9nov09,0,6025791.story?coll=la-home-local}$ 

37. *November 8*, *Ashville Citizen-Times* – (North Carolina) **Fire burns Nantahala National Forest.** A 60-acre wildfire is burning in the Joyce Kilmer Wilderness located in North Carolina, the U.S. Forest Service said. The fire started November 3 and has about 100 firefighters trying to extinguish the flames that were fueled by 30 mph gusts of wind. The cause of the fire is still under investigation though lightning has been ruled out. Source: <a href="http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071108/NEWS01/71108080">http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071108/NEWS01/71108080</a>

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# **Dams Sector**

- 38. November 9, Chico Enterprise-Record (California) Senate veto override pushes levee project forward. The U.S. Senate voted November 8 to override President Bush's veto of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The bill authorizes construction of a new setback levee on the Sacramento River near Hamilton City, California among other things. With the Senate's override approval, the \$23.2 billion act is now law, allowing flood control projects nationwide and in California to move forward. The Hamilton City Flood Reduction and Ecosystem Repair Project is included in the new law at a federal cost estimate of \$34.1 million, with an \$18.3 million state and local share. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project, now in the design phase, will still face specific funding requests from Congress.

  Source: http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci\_7413548
- 39. *November 8, The Daily Nonpareil* (Iowa) **Indian Creek dam work protects Council Bluffs.** Construction, which began in mid-October, is nearly complete on the Indian Creek Site 2 Dam in Iowa, and the chances of dangerous flooding from 9,800 acres of watershed will be reduced, officials say. According to the county resource planner, Council Bluffs homes, schools and businesses would have suffered from floods or a dam breach more than the rural homes around the structure. The Iowa Department of Natural

Resources changed the watershed structure's hazard classification from "A" to "C" (or from medium to high hazard) in 2003. High hazard includes loss of human life if a dam fails. The class change required the Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors and the West Pottawattamie County Soil and Water Conservation District to upgrade to high hazard specifications.

Source:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19003053\&BRD=2703\&PAG=461\&deptid=555106\&rfi=6}$ 

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